

Church Services February 2020

2nd February	Presentation of Christ, Candlemas		
9.00am	Holy Communion	Lorton	BCP
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	CW
9th February	3rd Sunday before Lent		
10.30am	Matins	Lorton	BCP
3.00pm	Holy Communion	Buttermere	CW
16th February	2nd Sunday before Lent		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Loweswater	CW
23rd February	Sunday next before Lent		
10.30am	Holy Communion	Lorton	CW
3.00pm	Evensong	Buttermere	BCP
26th February	Ash Wednesday		
† 10.00am	Holy Communion	Dean	CW

† Note time

LINK SUBSCRIPTIONS 2020

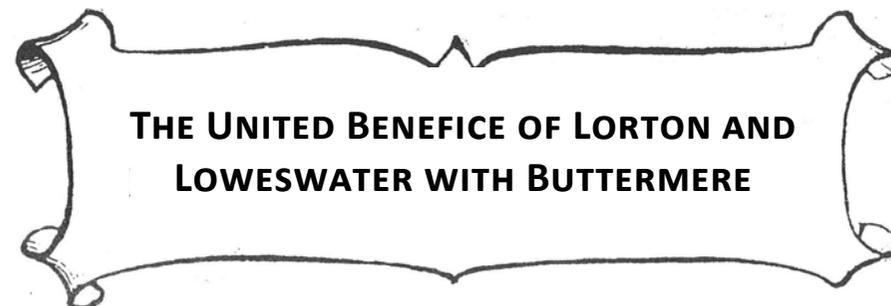
These are now due.

If you wish to continue with the Link this year (10 issues) , please note that the rate for postal subscribers is still £12 pa. and £5 for the copies the distributors deliver.

Please send your subs. (using the envelope provided) to the treasurer: David Walmsley The Old Police House, High Lorton, Cockermouth. CA13 9UL; or give them to your distributor. Please write your name on the envelope. Thank You.

Deadline for March is Fri 22nd February , all articles to lortonvalelink@gmail.com by this date. To all local photographers - do send pictures suitable for the front cover

FEBRUARY 2020



DIARY DATES

FEB

3	Mon	Keep fit LVH 8.45-9.30. 9.30-10.30
5	Wed	Table Tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
7	Fri	Wine Tasting, 7p.m, LVH
8	Sat	Coffee & Cakes, hosted by Lorton afternoon book group, 10-12.30, YTH
9	Sun	Mockerkin Mob A walk
10	Mon	Keep fit LVH 8.45-9.30. 9.30-10.30
10	Mon	Community Lunch, Lorton School, 1.15pm. Call Helen on 07790 459064
10	Mon	Loweswater (Farmers) Discussion Group - Kirkstile 8 pm.
11	Tue	Lorton WI Open Meeting: Lonnings - Alan Cleaver and Lesley Park, YTH 7.30pm
12	Wed	Loweswater Ladies - Kirkstile Inn - 7 for 7.30 pm.
12	Wed	Table Tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
13	Thu	Charity Night, Bridge Hotel, Buttermere, 6.30 for 7p.m.
14	Fri	Valentine's night Fundraising Supper at the Yew Tree Hall, YTH, 7.30pm
14	Fri	Film Night "Blinded by the Light" Ullock village hall 7.30pm
14	Fri	Keep fit LVH 5.30-6.30
16	Sun	Mockerkin Mob B walk
17	Mon	Keep fit LVH 8.45-9.30. 9.30-10.30
19	Wed	Table Tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
20	Thu	Images of the British Empire, Arts Soc Cumbria, Hundith Hill Hotel, 10.45 am and 2 pm
20	Thu	Lorton Gardening Club talk, 2p.m., YTH
21	Fri	Witty Ditties, AoW @ LVH 7:30pm
22	Sat	Lorton Eco Project Swap Shop, 10-12, YTH
24	Mon	Keep fit LVH 8.45-9.30. 9.30-10.30
24	Mon	Loweswater (Farmers) Discussion Group - Kirkstile 8 pm.
25	Tue	Film Night, Official Secrets, YTH, 7.30pm, Doors at 7pm
26	Wed	Table Tennis, YTH, 7-9pm
27	Thu	77 Club. Talk by David Gardiner: <i>Water Aid - Taps and Toilets for Everyone.</i> 7.30pm LVH.
28	Fri	Arts out West "Last Quiz Night on Earth" Ullock village hall 7.30pm
28	Fri	Keep fit LVH 5.30-6.30

MAR

4	Wed	Lent Lunch, Robert & Carole Baird, Park View, High Lorton, 12-2
4	Wed	Lorton Parish Council Annual Meeting, YTH, 7.30pm
4	Wed	Lorton Parish Council, YTH, to follow Annual meeting
5	Wed	Loweswater Parish Council, Loweswater village hall, 7.30pm
7	Sat	Lorton Tennis Club Ceilidh, 7p.m, YTH
9	Mon	Community Lunch, Lorton School, 1.15pm. Call Helen on 07790 459064
9	Mon	Loweswater (Farmers) Discussion Group - Kirkstile 8 pm.
11	Wed	Loweswater Ladies 7.15 Loweswater Village Hall - John & Rosamund Macfarlane .
12	Thu	German Miners under the Derwent Fells, LDFLHS talk by Mark Hatton, YTH, 7.30 pm
13	Fri	Film Night "Judy" Ullock village hall 7.30pm
19	Thurs	The Eccentricity Effect. Does knowledge of the artists' lives affect how we perceive their art? Arts Society Cumbria, Hundith Hill Hotel, 10.45 am and 2 pm
23	Mon	Loweswater (Farmers) Discussion Group - Kirkstile 8 pm.
26	Thu	77 Club. Talk by Macfarlanes: <i>Living with nomads and eagle hunters of Mongolia. A photographic journey.</i> 7.30pm LVH

COFFEE MORNING
 hosted by the
Afternoon Book Club

Oh! I'd have to think twice about that.

Coffee & Cake £2.50

Yew Tree Hall
 Saturday 8th February
 10.30am to 12noon

A Melbreak Communities Event



VICAR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Where has the year gone! (Where did the decade go!!) It hardly seems a few months have passed since writing last year's February Link letter but here we are once again thinking of snowdrops and pancakes.

Once again there are many indoor events that we can attend, and I can recommend the Wine Tasting at Loweswater Village Hall on February 7th (a very enjoyable and educational evening) and the coffee mornings. There will also be the Lorton Eco Swap Shop on 22nd February at Yew Tree Hall that I am looking forward to (if you enjoy *bric-a-brac* you will enjoy this event). We are to be encouraged to recycle and reuse items once we have finished with them and what better way to do this by taking some of our used and unwanted items to swap for items that we may want.

After Shrove Tuesday (and the welcome pancakes) there is Ash Wednesday and I am looking forward to attending the Lent lunches – good wholesome food for a damp and cold period. *'For food drink and fellowship God's Holy name be praised. Amen'*. We are researching several ideas to use for our Lent course/worship this year and welcome all who may wish to join us. Further details will appear in the March Link. Lent is associated with both light and darkness. For those living in the northern hemisphere, it comes when the days are getting longer and the nights shorter; when the light is bringing life as new growth appears and the scent of hope is in the air. The promise of Easter and resurrection is all around, leading us through the dark nights and reminding us that soon the light will come. Jesus came to bring light

to everyone who will receive it, and this has both a present focus in the call to walk in the light, and a future focus as we look forward to a time when we will live fully in the glory of God with Jesus the Lamb as our lamp,

'The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.' (Revelation 21: 23)

In that time, we will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun for the Lord God will give us light,

There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever. (Revelation 22: 5)

Jesus is the light and life of the world: *'the radiance of God's glory'* (Hebrews 1: 3)

Therefore, look forward to the light – not only the lighter days but also the light of Christ. As the light shines in the darkness, revealing what it there, so can nothing stay hidden in the presence of God.

God bless

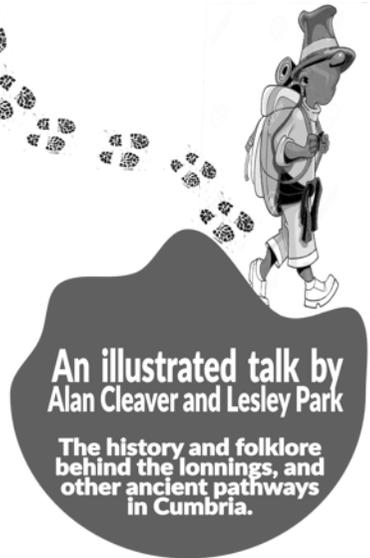
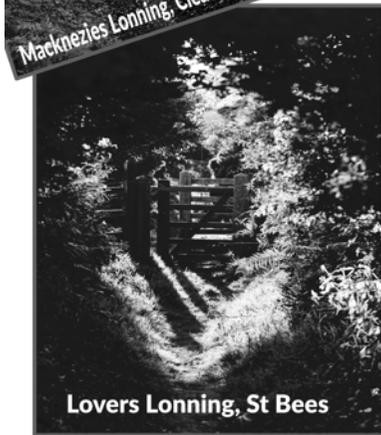
Revd. Sandra Ward

01900 85237
revd.sandra@gmail.com

Lorton WI Open Meeting
Tuesday 11th February, Yew Tree Hall, 7.30pm

have you enjoyed the delights of Parson's Passage, Squeezed Gut and Billy Watson's Lonning!

THE LONNINGS OF CUMBRIA



An illustrated talk by Alan Cleaver and Lesley Park

The history and folklore behind the lonnings, and other ancient pathways in Cumbria.

There is no admission fee for non-members but donations welcome. Refreshments will be available

Loweswater Village Hall News

After a lovely evening (despite the horrible weather) with Celtic Christmas Strings before Christmas, our next booking with Arts Out West promises to cheer-up a dark February Evening.

Witty Ditties: 400 Years of Comic Song Friday 21st February @ LVH 7.30p.m.

Following on from their acclaimed shows: A Brief History of Music and The Canterbury Tales, GreenMatthews bring you a new show which explores our rich history of witty wordplay and melodic mirth.

Chris Green (piano, guitar, accordion) and Sophie Matthews (early woodwinds, flute, saxophone) bring you 4 centuries of chromatic comedy, ranging from bawdy Restoration ballads to stinging Sixties satire.

Featuring songs by Noël Coward, Tom Lehrer, Flanders and Swann and a host of other lesser-known songwriters, this fun and fast-moving revue will have you rolling in the aisles!

<http://www.greenmatthews.co.uk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYlorYclc2Y>

Tickets: £10 for adults, £5 for children and £22 for family (2 adults and 2 children).

To book online email: loweswaterevents@gmail.com or phone Penny on 01946 862200.

Welcome back.

At St Bartholomew's we are delighted to welcome back the organist Alan Wilson who is returning for his fourth Organ Recital on Friday 17th April. More details in the March Link.

Loweswater Ladies January 2020

We ended our enjoyable 2019 programme of speakers and events with a very enjoyable Christmas buffet for members, partners and friends at Wild Zucchini café in Cockermouth. We would like to thank Manon and her staff for delicious food and excellent service.

Our first meeting of 2020 held on January 8th was also a very enjoyable evening. Alison welcomed us all and thanked Christine and Madeleine for arranging a very successful series of talks for the past year. Our raffle this evening, presented by Alison was won by Madeleine herself.

Alison introduced our speaker for the evening, Gary Maxwell, who proceeded to give us an excellent audio visual talk on WW1. Gary had also brought along plenty of memorabilia from the war, including rifles, shells, bayonets, coins, bullets, grenades, water bottles, gas mask holders and even some tins of corned beef. Many of these items had been retrieved from the trenches and some buried for many a decade. He also showed us German iron cross medals as well as British campaign service medals.

Gary's passion for studying the war in great detail was very evident and he commenced with an explanation of the differences between this first major conflict since Waterloo, when fighting techniques were so very different. Mechanisation had arrived, and many mistakes were made when planning campaigns, including the realisation that trench wiring was dissimilar from barbed wire fencing and could not be easily breached.

Gary's audio visual account was very moving, as he showed us his photos from numerous war grave cemetery's that he

has visited. Each one noted the number of casualties buried there, and we were astounded to learn just how many men were interred as 'unknown soldiers'. At Thiepval monument there are 72, 194 names listed of the Missing. At Arras the memorial lists 2650 buried, 10 unknown but 3500 never found.

We also explored the part women played during this First World War in Britain, where many of the factory workers were employed making shells. They were often called 'canaries' as the cordite stained their skin. In Chilwell, Notts, 134 munitions workers were killed plus 250 injured in an explosion, victims from both inside and out of the factory.

It was indeed a sobering and reflective talk. At the Menin gate in Ypres the sacrifice of so many young men is reflected upon by the local firemen playing the Trumpet Voluntary at 8pm every night for the past 100 years. We listed in silence to their tribute. For my part, this quote from Rudyard Kipling summed up my feelings. "If any question why we died, tell them because our fathers lied." Food for thought indeed, as we enter another decade in a troubled and unsettled world.

Our next meeting will be our annual meal at the Kirkstile Inn, 7pm for a 7.30 start on Wednesday February 12th. Names and menu choices were taken at the last meeting, there are a few places left so if you wish to add your name, please ring Alison on 01946 861147. The 3 course meal will cost £20 including gratuities. The evening raffle will be presented by Ann Hayton.

Ann Hiley

LORTON NOTES



DARK SKIES

A small group of poetry fans met in Lorton Village Shop in December to read and write poetry around the subject of Dark Skies. Here is one of the poems written

Eclipse

The fells are in the Vale of Lorton, Cumbria

On Melbreak's flank the day has yet to rise,
And Grasmoor's sun-black shadowline will chase
The dark across the heather-tumbling face,
To spread and spread the warming morning skies.

But, dead of noon, the moon will plagiarise
The night, and at a leisured stroke efface
The day, to fill each eye and earthly space
With midnight black; and nature's chatter dies.

The minutes pass; the lanes and fields lie still;
Smoked lenses have no light or shade to see,
Until a sliver strikes the valley floor,

And, leaf by leaf, the trees begin to fill;
The lake again reflects the diamond scree;
Dark skies have gone: the day is born once more.

John Scrivens

11th December 2019

As I am gathering my thoughts together to write these Notes the wind is blowing a gale and the rain is lashing on the outside of the window. At times like this we think that perhaps a little less rain would be welcome, but these thoughts are quickly banished when recalling the horrifying fires in Australia. We have a daughter living in Australia, thankfully not in an area immediately affected, but as a consequence feel a greater affinity towards the country. In this neighbourhood we are well aware that too much rain brings its own problems, but having moved here from Bromley in South East London I believe it is better to have too much rain rather than too little.

In late winter the Church's calendar seems to move forward at a hectic pace. On February 2 we are celebrating Candlemas but a week later we are in the season of Sundays before Lent, the period of penitence and fasting before the Crucifixion and Easter. Ash Wednesday is 26 and the services that day will be Mission Community events. There will be no service in the Benefice but there will be a service at Dean during the daytime. During Lent there will be the traditional Lent Lunches, social occasions not just for churchgoers but gatherings enjoyed by the community as a whole. There will also be a Lent course. Further details can be found elsewhere in The Link.

Roger Peck

NSPCC Carol Singing

Thankyou to everybody who helped with our carol singing last month – all the singers, our hosts and hostesses who provided us with very welcome and very warming 'eats and drinks' and all the listeners for their generous donations. We raised the fantastic sum of £1,183 – an amazing amount.

As you all know, Loweswater Show had to be cancelled due to the weather, so we were unable to have our usual stall but I have sold jams and pickled onions at various places and events since and have raised £385, so it wasn't a total disaster!

A brilliant effort by everyone – well done and hopefully we'll see you all next time.

Ann Hayton

LORTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
JANUARY 2020 Meeting



We rounded off 2019 with a delightful Christmas lunch at Hundith Hill. We welcomed a couple of past members and had good food and good craic. Our first meeting of 2020, on 14th January, focused on a talk by Amanda Denwood on Autism. 10 members and 2 guests gathered at Yew Tree Hall, where we started with cake, tea and a short business meeting. We were reminded to look at the Resolutions to be discussed at the National AGM; a list to sign to offer finger food for our Open Meeting next month was circulated, as was a list to sign to go to Portofino's for our March Birthday meeting; the Area Team Darts competition starts at Aspatria on February 17th – Carol is organising our team. Chairman Ann welcomed Amanda who introduced herself as a qualified teacher with two autistic boys. She took extra training in Autism to support her boys and now also supports families and people with Autism. There followed a discussion of our own experience and perceptions of Autism. Images from the film "Rain Man" and the t.v. drama "The A word" were raised and Amanda was able to illustrate the huge range of behaviours which might be identified as "on the Spectrum". Amanda was able to clarify for us that certain traits, focussing on 3 areas of disfunction, are key to a definition. The degree to which individuals are affected in these areas will influence how they present their condition – everyone's Autism is different. The first area is Social Communication. This might

vary from an individual never being able to develop speech to being very articulate but unable to understand underlying meanings and feelings in communication with others. Their speech and understanding of others tends to be very literal. Difficulties with communication will affect the second area – Social Integration. Individuals may find difficulty establishing relationships. The third trait was difficulty with Imagination, particularly in being able to empathise and imagine situations beyond the immediate. With problems in all 3 of these areas individuals may be prone to heightened anxiety and sensitivity to sensory overload, causing loss of control and "melt-downs". Amanda emphasised that with understanding of these issues and provision of routines and support in the right environment to mitigate anxiety individuals can often develop learned behaviours which help them to cope with an often puzzling and frightening world. Amanda's talk was most enlightening and interesting. Judith gave a heart-felt vote of thanks. Next month is an Open Meeting at Yew Tree Hall (see poster on page 26), at 7.15 for members and 7.30 for visitors, on Tuesday 11th February, when Alan Cleaver, a popular speaker, will be talking about Local Lonnings. All are welcome.



CHARITY NIGHT

AT
THE BRIDGE HOTEL, BUTTERMERE

We are delighted to announce our hosted charity event in aid of
The Old School, Buttermere.

3 COURSE MEAL

**(£17.00 per person which will all go to the Old School
to be paid on arrival by cash or cheque.)**

STARTER
Chicken liver parfait, Earl Grey soaked raisins, red onion marmalade toasted sourdough

MAIN COURSE
Crispy pork belly, caramelised apples, pancetta, baby onions and cabbage. Red wine jus

DESSERT
Rhubarb frangipane, white chocolate and vanilla custard
Vegetarian option is available.

Thursday, 13th February 2020
at 6:30pm for 7:00pm.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL
PLEASE CALL **017687 70252** TO MAKE A RESERVATION.
WWW.BRIDGE-HOTEL.COM | ENQUIRIES@BRIDGE-HOTEL.COM



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THE MOCKERKIN MOB

Founder Alan Gane MBE. Fell walking friends based in the Melbreak Communities



A352: Melbreak Sunday 9th February

A climb up the steep side of Melbreak, walking to the south top to gain the views of Buttermere. Return via the shoreline to finish under Brackenthwaite Hows.

Meet: 9.50am for 10am start.

Car Park: B5289
By Lanthwaite Green Farm

GR: 158208

Estimated Time: 6 hours

Leaders: Pip & Chris Mills

Grade: Hard

B353: Newlands valley Sunday 16th February

A circular walk around the Newlands valley. Braithwaite – Stair – Little Town. The walk is a figure of eight and can be cut in half if required.

Meet: 9.50am for 10am start.

Car Park: Braithwaite Common
By the Orthodox Chapel.

GR: 229236

Estimated Time: 4 hours

Leader: Peter Battrick

Grade: Easy

Walkers participate at their own risk and should be fit, and equipped for walking on the fells in all conditions. If you would like to join please contact:
Peter 01900 85576 – James 07808 581141 – mockerkinmob@gmail.com

Some useful Helpline numbers:

Alcohol Advice	0800 9177650
Allerdale Bulky Items Collection	0303 123 1702
Alzheimers Society	01900 607280
Childline	0800 1111
Citizens Advice	01900 604 735
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Cruse Bereavement care	0844 4779 400
Cumbria Health on Call (CHOC)	111
West Cumbria Domestic Support	01900 67167
Samaritans	01946 694266

Penny's Piece

There are many random phrases and idioms we use daily that sometimes make me wonder where they came from. A small child falls over and we say 'oops a daisy!'. What has a daisy got to do with it? They are hardly a trip hazard poking out of the grass and don't hurt if you sit on them (unlike those nasty flat thistles). Another one that had me going until the penny dropped (I wish people would stop dropping me. It hurts, I don't have the padding.) was 'bagsy'. 'Bagsy me in the front', 'bagsy me a seat next to you'. Then I had the 'doh' moment when I realised you are literally asking someone to put their bag on the seat to save it for you. Unless of course you are on public transport and then you are just being a pain and preventing other people from sitting down. They are people, they might talk to you which apparently down south in particular, is the end of the world. The M6 car park certainly throws up some interesting sights and contrasting examples of human nature. Last weekend junctions 33-32 were closed as they were demolishing a bridge. So the A6 became the car park. A little annoying as you use the A6 to get away from the M6 but after that there isn't really another option. This is the time where the Range Rover and Audi drivers really didn't help their reputation. Everyone else can see we are queuing and the lanes are closing so get in line. Not if you drive a Range Rover or an Audi- carry on and try shoving in near the front. Then on the slip road, use the hard shoulder to go around and have another

go. One of the few times credit could then be given to the white van driver who saw what was happening and parked himself across the lane and hard shoulder. Well played pal! In contrast our line was good at letting locals in and out of junctions along the A6 so they could get on with their day. On the way back there had just been an accident on the M6 as we were being passed by a group of boy racers: lit up like Blackpool, interesting colours, twin down pipe exhausts and wheels that looked out of place on a Ford. One of them kept back-firing and sending flames out of the exhaust which was . . . a waste of fuel mainly. Then one of the guys from a car a few back, was running down the middle lane to get to his mates further up. This confused me as, even though my mobile is classed as being from the arc, I do have one. I'm certain this guy would have had one too and could have called. His mate probably has hands free speakers of the type that would have allowed us to hear the conversation from our car too! Every time I hear this from a car I think of Dom Joly- I'M ON THE PHONE! It is now nice to be able to open the fridge and not find remnants of passed meals- mainly meat, and what's left of the cheese board. In case you've missed them somehow, the Easter eggs were out before New Year in some places. Better buy some quick before they run out! Hope to see some of you for a laugh on the 21st.
Penny

2020 LENT LUNCHES

The 2020 Lent Lunches will commence on Wednesday 4th March and will continue every Wednesday up to and including 1st April. The first lunch will be hosted by Robert and Carole Baird at Park View, High Lorton. Other venues will be listed in the March Link but if you are willing to host a lunch then please contact Carole on 01900 85343



**BOOK NOW
FOR MOTHER'S
DAY LUNCH
22/03/2020**

**MILL BECK DINING ROOM
AT THE BRIDGE HOTEL,
BUTTERMERE, CA139UZ**

Bookings Essential

**CALL 017687 70252
TO MAKE A BOOKING**

*Lunch is served between
12-2.30pm on Sunday 22nd March 2020*



LORTON FILM NIGHT

**TUESDAY
FEBRUARY
25**

**AT YEW TREE
HALL**

FILM STARTS : 730pm
BAR OPENS : 7pm
TICKETS : £5

**FEATURED
MOVIE:** **OFFICIAL SECRETS**

Starring Keira Knightley this is the gripping true
story of Iraq war whistleblower Katherine Gun.

" a tough and forthright slow-burner "
Peter Bradshaw The Guardian

"full of political subterfuge and whistleblowing
deliberations "
Ian Freer Empire Film

Lorton Tennis Club

Ceilidh

Yew Tree Hall, Lorton
Saturday 7th March



"Do-si-do,
I said!
DO-SI-DO!"

Bar 7.00 pm
Food 7.45pm
Ceilidh 8.30pm
Raffle



live music with
Dos Bandidos

Tickets £12.50
under 16 yrs £6.00

Tickets available from Lorton Shop
and Committee Members
Chris Edmunds 07740865147
edmunds_chris@hotmail.com

Robert Cruickshank 07594541788
robertcruickshank1@btinternet.com

NOTES FROM ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S AND ST JAMES

We have had a welcome respite these last few days from the interminable wind and rain and the days are lengthening, the snowdrops have arrived with swathes of fieldfares; several reasons to be cheerful.

Thank you to all who decorated the church, under Margie's watchful eye, for our Christmas services. It looked very festive together with the tallest Christmas tree anyone can remember. We had large enthusiastic congregations at our Carol service and on Christmas morning. We are grateful to Sue and her choir for the usual high standard of singing and music.

The subject of fund raising was very much to the fore at our recent PCC meeting for both Loweswater and Buttermere Old School. The first event will be David and Barbara Robinson's wine tasting on 7th February. Other events are planned and will appear in the Link when dates are finalised. Whilst we are still in the season of Epiphany we are looking ahead to Lent with the lunches and study group.

There was standing room only, a packed church, for the popular informal service of carols and readings at Buttermere on 29th December. We had the usual varied readings followed by sherry and mince pies and time to chat. Thanks to John Scadding for rising to the occasion as the requests came flooding in.

Many of the altar frontals at Buttermere are showing serious signs of wear and tear and may have been nibbled by the church mice. We are grateful to Barbara for making the beautiful new white frontal which has been much admired since it's been in situ.

The flower rota is available at the back the church, please fill in the gaps.

Eleanor Ella

Lorton Parish Council

Lorton Parish Council is holding the Annual Parish Meeting in Yew Tree Hall on Wednesday 4th March at 7.30p.m.

Brain of the Benefice 2019

"Food for thought"

37 entries, 30 correct and 1 booby. Several of you were sCREAMing rather than sCURRYing along but I think that was acceptable. Apologies to those that the Rev'd Sandra ineptly failed to pick out of the hat. The lucky winner and *Brain of the Benefice 2019* is Judith Hope of Corn How Farm, in second place Alison Edwards of Loweswater and third was Sheila Mills of High Lorton. The booby prize went to Jan Evans of Palace How. For those who didn't quite manage to clear their plates.....

He had decided to LIVE Somewhere in the country and as a job RAISED LAMBS. He would marshal LOTS of them up on the fells. He had to watch out. He'd seen a FOX, TAIL SO Upright it made him smile as the raSCAL LOPed away. He liked music and had written a tuBA CONcerto although he preferred to use A BASSoon. He had a lady CHUM MUSically inclined who played the cello with a loT OF FEELing. He had given her A VIOLIn. "There is no harM IN Cello playing, of course. BeSIDES A LADy likes to have her earDRUMS TICKled by different music sometimes."

He invited her to dinner. She was rather late. "Come on LOVE, GET A BLEssed move on" he thought. Being a bit agitated he knocked over a vase of flowers. The reSULT A NASTy mess and a sMASHED POT A Total loss. He had to sKIP PERilously round it to grASP A RAG USed for dusting and crawl round mopping up. He gave a gaSP ON GETting up to see her arriving. "My dear woMAN GET OUTside for a moment. I've had a mishAP PLEase wait while I clear things up." It was comiC HOW DERanged he looked. A waSP IN A CHair outside nearly stung her as she sat down to wait. "I was nearly hurt too" he said. "As I was preparing it for dinner the cRAB BIT PIercing my thumb." He put a negRONI ON the table for her. "You do loOK RAvishing" he thought.

"I was going to phONE You to say I'd be late leaving work as there were no other staff ON DUE to sickness" she said. "I made up for it by really sCURRYing along. How muCH I'VE So looked forward to this." She looked round at the nICE CREAMy colour of the room and noticed a sKETCH Upside down on one wall of a little flock. "Are those your lambs" she asked. "Yes, but I think I need a change of occupation" he said "I've rather lost tRACK OF LAMbing". "The farmer employs TERrifying sheepdogs that frighten me." "Oh you'll just be sCORNEd. BE Effective, faCE REALity and learn how to control them." she replied. "I'm not I hoPE AN UTter coward" he said. "It's not a PROBLEM ON A DEcent day when they behave themselves.

I'm afraid the oVEN IS ONLY just heating up which is tiresOME. LET TEN minutes go by and then we can eat. I'm not much of a cook but I've made the souP AS TAsTy as I could. I was going to make the crab inTO A STarter but it got burnt and left my saucePAN CAKEd in dried bits and we will have to sCOFF EEI pie. There's onLY CHEESE to follow."

Not much of a meal. Yours will be I hoPE A CHristmas dinner to remember.

Walkers Way - Number 199

Studying the world's wildlife these days can be rather depressing. Every way we turn, almost everything we read, seems to be bad news. At the conference of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, it was assessed that 23% of mammals, 15% of birds, 21% of reptiles and 31% of amphibians are now threatened with extinction. The oxygen we breathe and the pollination of many of our food crops are dependant on other species, and such processes are being ruined by Man, such as through the destruction of the rainforests. The very existence of the human species is under long-term threat. While it is tempting to think it is all beyond us as individuals – in fact there are things every one of us can, and must do. Many are obvious, such as the way we deal with plastic (of which 300 million tons is produced annually) and by supporting conservation bodies such as the Cumbria Wildlife Trust and RSPB. We are most fortunate in Cumbria, in that we have more wildlife sites of national and international importance than any other county in England. But of course, it is not only local, but worldwide wildlife that is important to us all and there are those who are striving to look after it, on a vast scale. One such organisation is FFI, or Fauna and Flora International, whose numerous and enormous programmes need our support too. One of the many problems they are tackling, is the illegal traffic in wildlife and the poaching, that is carried out to feed that trade, such as that of the pangolin or scaly ant-eater, an estimated 1 million of which have been trafficked in the last 20 years. FFI is also making great efforts to save the Sumatran tiger, the rhino and the African elephant, and is increasing protection for many other species including the Asian elephant. The Cambodian Elephant Conservation Group, a partnership

between FFI and the government was formally launched in 2005.

And of course, there are many projects in relation to plants. Some 60% of our energy comes from just three species, rice, wheat and maize – a precarious position in the face of climate change and the spread of new pests and diseases which is expected to result. Unfortunately, botanical research is lagging far behind. For example, there are currently 391,000 species of vascular plants known to science, but the status of only 31,000 has been assessed so far. In the case of birds, on the otherhand, the status of all 11,000 known species has been assessed and is updated every four years. This despite the fact we rely so heavily on plants for food, raw materials, medicines, clean air and soil stabilisation. In 2018 alone FFI worked in direct partnership with some 400 other organisations, collaborated with a further 200 and engaged with 450 communities. It achieved conservation gains in relation to 69 of its priority species. It protected forest, wetland, marine, montane, desert and grassland habitats, limestone caves and wildlife meadows at over 200 sites in 50 countries. Sir David Attenborough, Vice-President of FFI, says "I am proud to have been a member of FFI since the late 1950's. This admirable organisation has kept its objectives clear and focused and has achieved marvellous things for conservation throughout its history". There is so much to do and FFI is in the forefront. A modest membership fee helps to provide essential financial support and members receive regular updates through excellent newsletters and a magazine. For further information see www.fauna-flora.org or write to FFI, The David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street, Cambridge, CB2 3QZ. Alan Gane.

Ullock Village Hall



Film Night – Friday 14 February 2020 at 7.30pm

Blinded By The Light (12A)

The film tells the story of Javed, a British teen of Pakistani descent, growing up in Luton in 1987. Amidst the racial and economic turmoil of the times, he writes poetry as a means to escape the intolerance of his hometown and the inflexibility of his traditional father. But when a classmate introduces him to the music of *The Boss*, Javed sees parallels to his working-class life in *Springsteen's* powerful lyrics. "*Blinded by the Light*" is a joyful story of courage, love, hope, family and the ability of music to lift the human spirit.

Tickets £5 (child £4) BYO Drinks

In Association with Arts out West and Box of Tricks:

“Last Quiz Night on Earth”

Friday 28 February 2020 at 7.30pm

Content deals with some adult themes (Age range from 14+)

It's the final countdown. Landlady Kathy invites you to the last quiz night on earth with Quizmaster Rav. He's the host with the most. But with time ticking, some unexpected guests turn up out of the blue. Bobby wants to settle old scores and Fran wants one last shot at love. Expect the unexpected right until the bitter end.

Tickets £14 including pie and peas served during the performance

Advance booking essential for catering purposes

For Tickets please call 01946 862300 or 861458

Online: kirkgatearts.org.uk

Wine Tasting

7pm Friday 7th February

Loweswater Village Hall

Food to accompany

£15 per ticket. available from

David & Barbara Robinson 0190085234



Lorton School require a clerk to our Local Governing Body. If anyone is interested, please contact the Headteacher, Olivia Harrison on 01900 85919.

Please do not hesitate to contact Olivia should you require any further information.

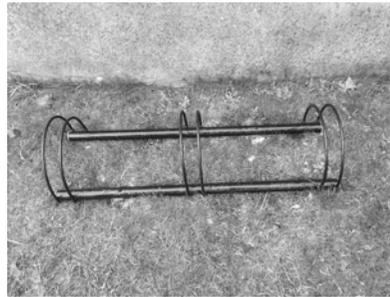
LORTON ECO PROJECT UPDATE

We're pleased to say that quite a lot has happened over the last few weeks:

Cumbria Woodland has now approved a grant for approximately 20 native shrubs and small trees to be planted around the perimeter wall of the churchyard and the diocese has given permission for this to go ahead. We plan to organise a 'planting party' in the next few weeks and if you are interested in participating please let Rosemary know (number below).

The Energy Survey for St Cuthbert's has now been received (but only recently) and it is currently being reviewed and digested. A more detailed report from this will appear in the March link.

Exciting news - we now have a bike rack round the back of the church (near the bins) - so there is now no excuse for members of the congregation not to cycle to Church.



Details are being finalised for the installation of a water butt so we can re-use our plentiful Cumbrian rainfall.

We have now set up the food bank collection point at the back of church (behind the font). Please only leave tinned goods such as soup, fruit, rice pudding and vegetables as well as UHT milk and fruit juice. There is a general poster displayed and each week there is an additional appeal for items in short supply.

And finally - see the poster on the facing page for our exciting Swap Shop event on 22nd February. If you cannot attend the event then please call Rosemary (01900 85072) to arrange to drop off your swap items.

The Mockerkin Mob – 351 and counting!

Twenty-five members of local walking group, the Mockerkin Mob, met for a splendid dinner at Loweswater's Kirkstile Inn on 12 January to celebrate 351 months of friendly walking since the group was founded in 1989 by then Mockerkin resident, Alan Gane. The group was delighted that Alan was able to join them once again for the celebrations.

The occasion also marked the 'retirement' of group organisers Joan Warren and Judy Hudson after seven years, during which they have overseen more than 160 walks of differing lengths and levels of difficulty over Cumbria and further afield.



While Joan and Judy will continue as keen members of the group their organisational roles will now be taken on by James Lusher and Peter Battrick. Thanking Judy and Joan for all their work on behalf of the group Peter said that following in their footsteps was an honour he and James were very happy to accept, but not without some trepidation!

Earlier in the day 20 'Mobsters' had repeated the group's very first walk, from Lamplugh, round Congra Moss and up onto Blake's Fell.

The Mockerkin Mob began life as 'a group of friends who enjoy walking on the fells together'. Nothing has changed since then and new walkers are always made very welcome.

Loweswater with Buttermere PCC
100 Challenge Club

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st December 2019

1st prize of £25 No 76 Kathryn Mitchell
2nd prize of £10 No 30 Meleri McEwan
3rd prize of £5 No 34 Derwent Thompson-Green

The prizewinners for the draw held on 1st January 2020

1st prize of £25 No 64 Robin Harper
2nd prize of £10 No 95 Jan Collins-Webb
3rd prize of £5 No 63 Alex Harper

Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all our supporters.



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